ART EXHIBITION CATALOGUES REPUBLISHED ON MICROFICHE

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ceramics by picasso

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INTRODUCTION

Although Pablo Picasso has worked in ceramics only a comparatively short time, his fresh approach to this age-old art has produced much that is new, and has exerted a considerable influence upon ceramists today. Until now, however, no large body of Picasso's ceramic work has been displayed in New York; and the Cooper Union Museum is happy in profiting by the temporary presence in the United States of a large and representative selection of the artist's work in this medium.

The majority of objects in the exhibition are the personal property of Picasso and were selected by him for exhibition. Numbers 60-84, 86 and 87 are lent by the Poterie Madoura, Vallauris, France, and still others are owned by lenders listed individually in the catalogue. While all the ceramics were baked under the supervision of Monsieur and Madame Georges Ramié at the Poterie Madoura, they fall into varying categories: Pieces, modelled by Picasso himself or fashioned into shapes specified by Picasso at the Poterie Madoura, that are decorated and glazed by Picasso's own hand (Nos. 1-59); others, stamped "Empreinte Originale de Picasso" (Nos. 60-85), produced in limited editions from moulds specially prepared and carved by Picasso; and yet others (Nos. 86-92) stamped "Edition Picasso", that are copies or interpretations of an original ceramic by Picasso, all decoration and glazing by the staff of the Poterie Madoura.

Picasso's first venture into ceramics was accidental. In 1946 he rented a studio in Golfe Juan on the French Riviera. A local painter one day invited Picasso to visit a pottery workshop in the neighboring village of Vallauris, the Poterie Madoura. During his visit, Picasso was persuaded to try his hand

and modelled a small bull. In this casual way began Picasso's fascination with ceramics, a fascination that during the past ten years has led to the production of ceramic objects of almost every type and shape imaginable.

Plates, plaques, jugs, vases, human and animal shapes have supplanted rectangular canvas as recipients of Picasso's creative force, each conceived as a whole, the color and line of its surface organically at one with its form. In the creation of his unique, highly personal forms, Picasso shows an amazing familiarity with ceramic history, sometimes suggesting the black-figured ware of ancient Greece, sometimes developing the color-sense of eighteenth-century European faience. With equal ease he makes his comment, slyly or openly comic, on standard types of ceramic wares that have long since lost the power to communicate any fresh message of their own; and he is not above making the same sort of joke that good-humored potters have always delighted in sharing with their kilns.

Working in ceramics, Picasso has found a solution to the instability of oil paint, which is subject to gradual deterioration, since the colors of clays and glazes, once fired, never change. One is reminded of Théophile Gautier's century-old admonition to the painter:

. . . fixe la couleur
Trop frêle
Au four de l'émailleur

In offering this selection of Pablo Picasso's ceramics to its visitors, the Cooper Union Museum records its thanks to Monsieur Picasso for his generosity in lending these examples of his work, and to Monsieur Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler for his help in the necessary arrangements. To Mr. Henri Marceau, Mr. Henry Clifford and Miss Gertrude Toomey, of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, is due the Museum's gratitude for their unfailing kindness in the transfer from Philadelphia to New York of the pieces recently shown there. The owners of additional pieces included in the exhibition — Fine Arts Associates, Mrs. Jacques Français, Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, Mr. and Mrs. Howard J. Sachs, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Saidenberg and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Zadok — have also been most generous in their loans.

CATALOGUE NUMBER 1

1 **Goat and Flute Player.** Plaque
14 June, 1948, 8 1/8 x 10 5/8
Red clay, colored slips, incised

2 **Still Life with Coffeepot.** Plaque
August, 1948, 39 3/8 x 39 3/8
Fire clay with slip and glaze decoration

3 **Faun Face.** Shallow dish
1 February, 1949, D 14 5/8
Slip underglaze carved and relief effects.
Eyes and nose formed by a kilnspur

4 **Fish.** Bowl
1 July, 1950, D 11
Incised design on red clay

5 **Decorated Cruet.** Six-handled vase
c. 1951, H 16 1/2
Black and blue slip on biscuit

6 **Frog.** Six-handled vase
c. 1951, H 16 1/2
Black and blue slip on biscuit

7 **Dots and Dabs.**
Two-handled pot with cover
c. 1952, H 16 1/2
White tin glaze with metal oxides

CATALOGUE NUMBER 8

8 **Bulls and Foliage.** Two-handled vase
c. 1952, H 28 ¾
Glazed with resist design

9 **Double Face.** Vase in shape of a cock
c. 1952, H 26
Black slip on white fire clay

10 **Two Faces.** Pitcher
6 January, 1953, H 16 ½
Decorated with metal oxide glazes and paraffin resist

11 **Pigeon Standing.**
7 January, 1953, H 5 ⅞
Black slip

12 **Four Faces.** Vase
26 January, 1953, H 22
Metal oxides on white tin glaze, incised

13 **Pigeon on its Nest.**
29 January, 1953, H 6 ¼
Black and blue slip

14 **Dabs.** Dish
4 March, 1953, D 15 ¾
Black resist design

15 **Dabs.** Dish
4 March, 1953, D 17 ⅞
Black resist design

16 **Flowers in a Vase.**
Jug, rim rolled inward
18 April, 1953, H 11 ¾
Colored slip on biscuit

17 **Daisies in a Vase.** Jug, rim rolled inward
18 April, 1953, H 11 ¾
Colored slip on biscuit, painted, carved

18 **Suns and Rays.** Jug
4 June, 1953, H 13 ¾
Fire clay with pastel slips

19 **Four Faces.** Two-handled vase
4 June, 1953, H 13
Fire clay, pastel slips

20 **Women and Silenus Head.**
Long-necked pitcher
3 July, 1953, H 14 ⅝
Fire clay with white and black slip

21 **Woman with Mirror, Groups of Figures.**
Jug
4 July, 1953, H 13 ⅜
Fire clay with white and black slip

22 **Bulls.** Jug
3 August, 1953, H 14⅝
Black slip and white clay, incised

23 **Pigeon.**
14 October, 1953, H 5½
Black slip, incised

24 **Landscape.** Dish
9 December, 1953, D 16⅞
Black slip with incised decoration picked out with tinted glazes

25 **Head and Geometric Motifs.** Vase
19 December, 1953, H 10½
Incised decoration with slip and glaze on red

26 **Landscape.** Dish
December, 1953, D 16⅞
Glaze and white enamel on incised black slip

27 **Figures.** Jug
Late 1953, H 11
White tin glaze on red, resist design

28 **Two Hands Holding a Bird.**
Duck-shaped pitcher
c. 1953, H 15
Metal oxides on white tin glaze, incised

29 **Painter and Model.** Jug
5 January, 1954, H 15
White tin glaze, resist design

30 **Painter and Model.** Jug
6 January, 1954, H 13¾
White tin glaze, resist design

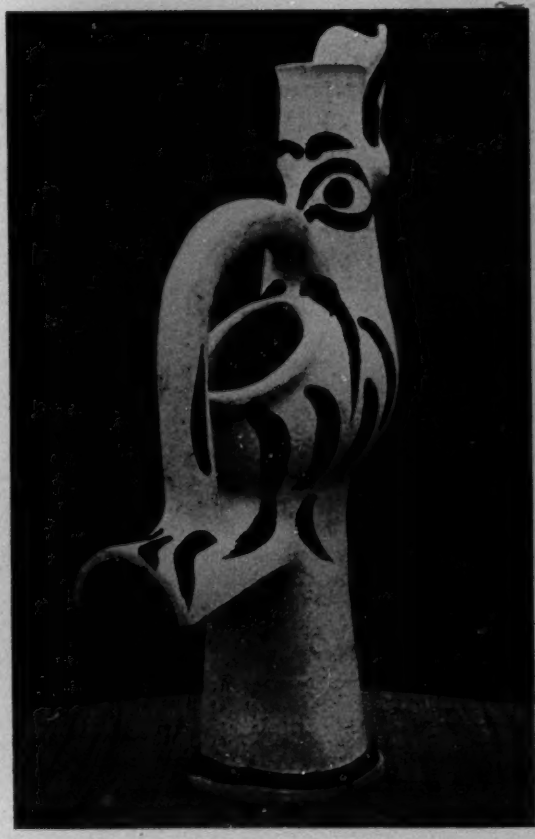
31 **Men's Faces.** Two-handled vase
6 January, 1954, H 7⅞
White tin glaze, resist design

32 **Painter and Sculptor with Model.** Jug
7 January, 1954, H 11
White and green glazes, resist design

33 **Circus Act.** Jug
9 January, 1954, H 14⅛
White tin glaze, resist design

34 **Face with Broken Nose.** Vase
9 January, 1954, H 26¾
Incised and glaze decoration on dark ground

CATALOGUE NUMBER 9



CATALOGUE NUMBERS 11, 13, 23

35 Stylized Bird. Pitcher in shape of pigeon with flat tail
11 January, 1954, H 14 5/8
Incised decoration, black slip and white glaze with touches of copper green

36 Vase of Flowers. Jug
12 January, 1954, H 11 3/4
Incised and glaze decoration on black ground

37 Three Faces. Jug
19 January, 1954, H 7 1/8
Incised and glaze decoration on black ground

38 Man's Face. Dish
6 April, 1954, 15 3/4 x 13
Carved under white glaze

39 Woman's Face. Dish
6 April, 1954, 15 3/4 x 13
Carved decoration under white glaze

40 Two Birds in a Cage.
Jug, rim rolled inward
10 April, 1954, H 11 3/4
Biscuit with colored slips, carved

41 Two Faces. Two-handled vase
1954, H 6¾
Green-black copper glaze with slip decoration

42 Face. Plate
c. 1954, D 9⅞
Slip wash with glaze, filled incised design and touches of glaze

43 Face. Plate
c. 1954, D 9⅞
Colored glazes on biscuit

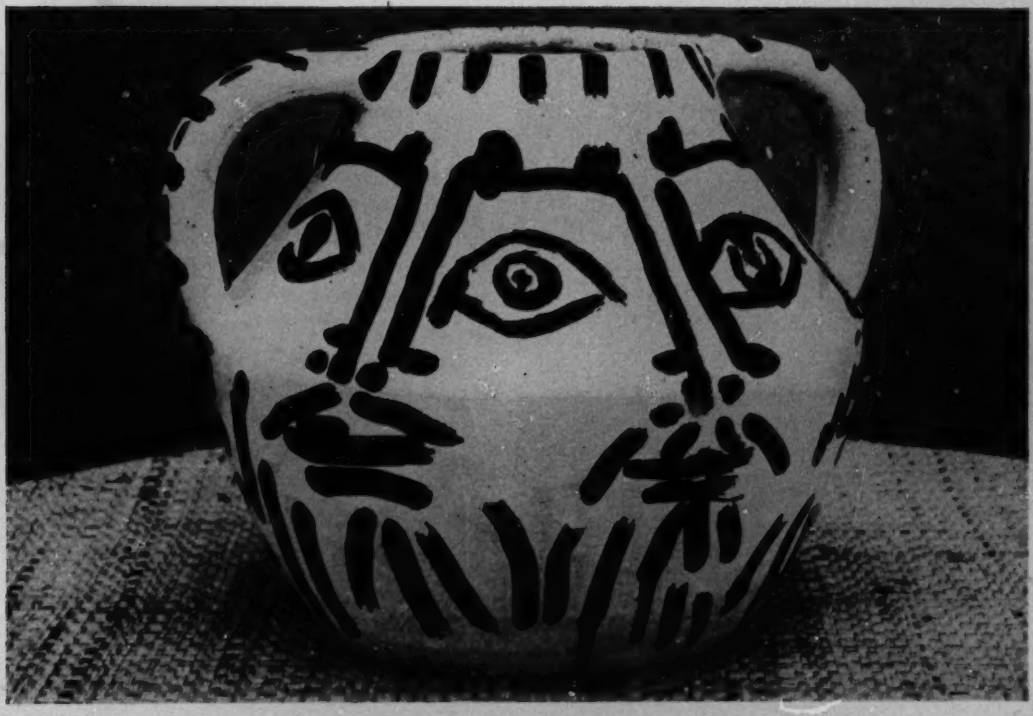
44 Face. Plate
c. 1954, D 9⅞
Colored glazes on biscuit

45 Face. Plate
c. 1954, D 9⅞
Biscuit, glaze-filled incised design

46 Face. Plate
c. 1954, D 9⅞
Biscuit, black slip with colored glazes

47 Stylized Face. Bowl
c. 1955, D 8⅝
Enamelled decoration on blue glaze ground

CATALOGUE NUMBER 31



CATALOGUE NUMBER 17

48 Three Faces and Serpentines.
Long-necked pitcher
1956, H 15¾
Carved biscuit

49 Girl in Chariot Drawn by Faun. Plaque
9⅞ x 13
Metal oxides on white tin glaze

50 Faun and Owl. Plate
28 April, 1957, D 16
Red clay, black decoration, partly glazed, eyes and nose formed by a kilnspur
Lent by Fine Arts Associates

51 Bullfight. Plate
15 x 12½
Painted in blue, black, red and green with transparent glaze
Lent by Mrs. Albert D. Lasker

52 Red and White Owl.
22 February, 1953, H 13¾
Painted terra cotta
Private collection, New York

53 Owl. Dish
27 March, 1957, D 17½
Red clay, brown and white slip, incised, colored glaze decoration
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Saidenberg

54 Clown. Dish
31 March, 1957, D 17
Red clay, brown and white slip, incised, colored glaze decoration
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Saidenberg

55 Clown. Dish
2 April, 1957, D 17
Red clay, brown and white slip, incised, colored glaze decoration
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Saidenberg

56 Fish. Dish
4 April, 1957, D 17½
Red clay, white slip, appliqué fish glazed in blue, green and sepia
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Saidenberg

57 Seven Fish. Dish
10 April, 1957, D 17¼
Red clay, white, yellow, blue and sepia slip, incised
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Saidenberg

58 Big Black Fish. Dish
16 April, 1957, D 17¼
Red clay, white, black, yellow and blue slip, incised
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Saidenberg

59 Goat's Head. Plate
16 x 16
Black, green and yellow decoration, glazed
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Zadok

60 Woman's Face. Jug
20 March, 1954, H 9
White biscuit

61 Jacqueline Roque. Plate
29 January, 1955, D 16½
White biscuit

62 Head of Sylvette.
31 March, 1955, D 6¾
Red clay

63 Fish.
31 March, 1955, D 6¾
Red clay

64 Fisherman under a Tree.
6 March, 1955, D 6¾
Red clay

65 Head of a Faun.
30 March, 1955, D 6¾
Red clay

66 Grasshopper.
31 March, 1955, D 6¾
Red clay

67 Bird.
31 March, 1955, D 6¾
Red clay

68 Faun's Head. Plate
28 June, 1955, D 10½
White biscuit

69 Bouquet and Apple. Plate
22 January, 1956, D 10½
White biscuit

70 Dancers. Plaque
Easter, 1956, D 10½
White biscuit

71 Goat. Plate
Easter, 1956, D 10½
White biscuit

CATALOGUE NUMBER 28

CATALOGUE NUMBERS 29, 30

72 Fish. Dish
19 May, 1956, D 17
White biscuit

73 Bathers. Plaque
July, 1956, D 7⅞
White biscuit

74 Faun and Goat Dancing. Plaque
July, 1956, D 10½
White biscuit

75 Dancers. Plate
July, 1956, D 10½
White biscuit

76 Three Bathers. Dish with domed center
August, 1956, D 12½
Moulded biscuit painted in black slip
and glazed

77 Bull's Head. Plaque
23 November, 1956, D 9¾
White biscuit

78 Large Vase with Fish.
1956, H 17⅞
Red slip decoration

79 Head. Dish
D 16⅞
White biscuit

80 Cavalier. Dish
D 17
White biscuit

81 Cavalier and Flutist. Dish
D 14½
White biscuit

82 Dancing Bacchante and Flute Player. Dish
D 13
White biscuit

83 Face and Hands. Dish
D 17
White biscuit

84 Face with Ivy Leaves. Dish
D 17
White biscuit

85 Bullfight. Plate
D 17½
White tin glaze, black oxide decoration
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Howard J. Sachs

CATALOGUE NUMBERS 32, 33

86 Two Faces. Vase
H 14½
White biscuit

87 Two Faces. Vase
H 14½
White biscuit

88 Owl. Vase
H 12½
White tin glaze, brown and black decoration
Lent by Mrs. Jacques Français

89 Four Faces. Plate
1952, D 10¼
White tin glaze, raised decoration
Lent by Mrs. Jacques Français

90 Goat and Goat's Head. Vase
6 June, 1952, H 7½
Carved, black painted and glazed decoration
Lent by Mrs. Jacques Français

91 Head of a Woman. Vase
H 11½
White tin glaze, black resist
Lent by Mrs. Jacques Français

92 Head of a Woman. Pitcher
1957, H 15½
Brown, black and green decoration
Lent by Mrs. Jacques Français

CATALOGUE NUMBER 4

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